IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Prateek Arora et al.

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Serial No.:

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed:

For: IMAGE PROCESSING

METHOD AND APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Prior to the examination of this Application, please amend the Application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At Page 1, please add the following heading before heading "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION":

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

At Page 1, please add the following paragraph after the heading "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS":

This application claims the benefit of Japanese Application No. 2002-198645 filed July 8, 2002.